



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|

10/542,050

12/14/2005

Pieter Johannes Meintjes

511-69

6361

23117 7590 12/08/2009
NIXON & VANDERHYE, PC
901 NORTH GLEBE ROAD, 11TH FLOOR
ARLINGTON, VA 22203

EXAMINER

CLEMENT, MICHELLE RENEE

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3641

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

12/08/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Communication Re: Appeal | Application No. 10/542,050 | Applicant(s) MEINTJES, PIETER JOHANNES | |
| | Examiner Michelle (Shelley) Clement | Art Unit 3641 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

1. ☐ The Notice of Appeal filed on _____ is not acceptable because:
 - (a) ☐ it was not timely filed.
 - (b) ☐ the statutory fee for filing the appeal was not submitted. See 37 CFR 41.20(b)(1).
 - (c) ☐ the appeal fee received on _____ was not timely filed.
 - (d) ☐ the submitted fee of \$_____ is insufficient. The appeal fee required by 37 CFR 41.20(b)(1) is \$_____.
 - (e) ☐ the appeal is not in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31(a)(1) in that no claim has been twice rejected.
 - (f) ☐ a Notice of Allowability, PTO-37, was mailed by the Office on _____.
2. ☐ The appeal brief filed on _____ is NOT acceptable for the reason(s) indicated below:
 - (a) ☐ the brief and/or brief fee is untimely. See 37 CFR 41.37(a).
 - (b) ☐ the statutory fee for filing the brief has not been submitted. See 37 CFR 41.20(b)(2).
 - (c) ☐ the submitted brief fee of \$_____ is insufficient. The brief fee required by 37 CFR 41.20(b)(2) is \$_____.

The appeal in this application will be dismissed unless corrective action is taken to timely submit the brief and requisite fee. See 37 CFR 41.37(a)(1). Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). See 37 CFR 41.37(e).

3. ☒ The appeal in this application is DISMISSED because:
 - (a) ☐ the statutory fee for filing the brief as required under 37 CFR 41.20(b)(2) was not timely submitted and the period for obtaining an extension of time to file the brief under 37 CFR 1.136(a) has expired.
 - (b) ☒ the brief was not timely filed and the period for obtaining an extension of time to file the brief under 37 CFR 1.136(a) has expired.
 - (c) ☐ a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 was filed on _____.
 - (d) ☐ other: _____.
4. ☒ Because of the dismissal of the appeal, this application:
 - (a) ☒ is abandoned because there are no allowed claims.
 - (b) ☐ is before the examiner for final disposition because it contains allowed claims. Prosecution on the merits remains CLOSED.
 - (c) ☐ is before the examiner for consideration.

| | |
|---|--|
| /Michelle (Shelley) Clement/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3641 | |
|---|--|